

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY – PROVO-OREM BUS RAPID TRANSIT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Utah Transit Authority (UTA), and the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) have prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Provo-Orem Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. The EA describes the transportation and environmental impacts associated with constructing and operating a new BRT system through the cities of Provo and Orem in Utah County, Utah. Specifically the proposed project would include:

- BRT service from the Orem Intermodal Center at 800 South and Interstate 15 to Utah Valley University, Brigham Young University, the Provo Intermodal Center, and University Avenue and I-15
- Two additional general purpose lanes on University Parkway from State Street to University Avenue
- New high-occupancy/toll interchange overpass at 800 South and I-15 in Orem to serve BRT, autos, pedestrians, and cyclists.

At completion, the project would include 19 new stations, two of which would be located at the future Orem and Provo Intermodal Stations. For approximately 71% of the proposed route, BRT vehicles would operate in their own exclusive center running lanes.

The EA has been signed by the FTA, FHWA, UTA and UDOT and is now available for public review and comment. The official comment period for this EA is from April 12, 2011 to May 13, 2011. Comments on the EA must be postmarked or e-mailed to the Provo-Orem BRT Project by May 13, 2011. Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

- E-mail to: provo-oremrapidtransit@hwlochner.com
- Postal mail to the following address:

Provo-Orem Bus Rapid Transit Project
c/o HW Lochner
1245 East Brickyard Road
Suite 400
Salt Lake City, Utah 84106

The EA is available on the project website at <http://www.provo-oremrapidtransit.info/> and the UTA website at <http://www.rideuta.com>. Hard copies of the EA are available for public review at the following locations:

- UTA FrontLines Headquarters, 669 West 200 South, Salt Lake City, Utah
- UTA Timpanogos Business Unit, 1110 South Geneva Road, Orem Utah
- Orem Public Library, 58 North State Street, Orem, Utah
- Provo City Library, 550 North University Avenue, Provo, Utah
- Utah Department of Transportation (Region 3), 658 North 1500 West, Orem, Utah

- Orem City (Engineering Department), 56 North State Street, Orem, Utah
- Provo City (Engineering Department), 1377 South 350 East, Provo, Utah
- Mountainland Association of Governments, 586 East 800 North, Orem, Utah
- Federal Highway Administration, 2520 West 4700 South, Suite 9A, Salt Lake City, Utah
- H.W. Lochner, 1245 East Brickyard Road, Suite 400, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Brigham Young University Library, 150 East 1230 North, Provo, Utah
- Utah Valley University Library, 800 West University Parkway, Orem, Utah

A public hearing/open house is scheduled on May 5, 2011 at Westmore Elementary School (1150 South Main Street, Orem) from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to receive comments on the EA. During the meeting, you will have the opportunity to submit verbal and/or written comments. The meeting will be accessible according to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

To assure full participation at the hearing, accommodations for effective communication, such as sign language interpreters or printed materials in alternate formats, or a language interpreter for non-English speaking participants must be requested at least five (5) working days prior to the date of the scheduled event. Requests for ADA accommodations should be directed to UTA's ADA Compliance Officer at 801-287-3536 or for deaf/hearing impaired person, dial 711 to make a relay call. To request a language interpreter, please contact UTA's Title VI Compliance Officer at (801) 741-8871.

Determination of Section 4(f) De Minimis Impact Finding

As part of the proposed improvements that would be made to University Parkway, a strip take of approximately 0.15 acres would be required along the northern portion of Hillcrest Park. The existing wall in this location will be relocated approximately 11' to the south. FTA has determined that Hillcrest Park is a Section 4(f) resource. Based on the impacts and measures to minimize harm, UTA recommends that pursuant to Section 6009 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) the effects of the proposed project on Hillcrest Park meet the impacts criteria and requirements specified in SAFETEA-LU for a de minimis impact finding. For parks, a de minimis impact is one that will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the property for protection under Section 4(f). In accordance with Section 6009 of SAFETEA-LU and 23 CFR 774.5, FTA and UTA are providing this notice to advise all interested persons or groups of their intent to issue a Section 4(f) de minimis impact finding for Hillcrest Park.

Michael A. Allegra
General Manager
Utah Transit Authority